One point more and I am done. Without intending the least disrespect for that veteran worker, Dr. Horn, I wish to say that the distribution of species as usually indicated by him in his writings, and for which collectors are doubtless largely responsible, are almost valueless in studies of this sort, and I wish to emphasize in the strongest manner possible the point made by Mr. L. O. Howard, in his paper on the "Geographical distribution within the United States of certain insects injuring cultivated crops," where the plea was made for an *exact* record of the occurrence of a species—for exact localities, instead of sections of country or States.

FINAL NOTE ON THE PLATYPTERYGIDÆ.

By A. RADCLIFFE GROTE, A. M.

I refer to my paper on this family Can. Ent. XXVII, 133, and wish here briefly to draw attention to what seems to me the true position of our single American species referred to *Platypteryx*, according to Neumœgen and Dyar's arrangement, although I had supposed we had three: *siculifer*, *arcuata*, *genicula*. It may well be these names only apply to races or forms of a single species: *arcuata*. I take it for granted that my argument as to the proper name for the family cannot be gainsaid. Before any idea had been expressed in literature that the genus represented a family, Hübner had fixed the type of *Platypteryx* in the Tentamen and pleuralized the name (Platypterices), using it for the group afterwards in the Verzeichniss (1818). Stephens adopted this name for the group in 1829, changing the termination to follow Swainson's rule (1827) for families, calling it Platypterícidæ. In 1868 I corrected the writing of the word to Platypteryginæ, regarding the group as a subfamily of Bombycidæ, following Packard. It should now be called Platypterygidæ, if we would respect the rules; it is correctly given in the Philadelphia Check List. No change in this title for the family seems permissable; the terms "Drepanulidæ" and "Drepanidæ" are simply synonyms and should be abated. For the type of Schrank's genus, with mixed contents, of 1802, is not yet indicated. The only certain generic type we have is *Platypteryx hamula* (*binaria*), and this is for Laspeyres' genus. Its designation by Hübner left at least three generic types still in Schrank's original genus, any one of which might be available for *Drepana*. The family type is fixed by Hübner, and the family name must be formed from the genus of this type. From a study of Speyer's excellent popular work it seems to me probable that the type of *Drepana* may be correctly held to be none

of these three left by Hübner's action open to our choice, viz.: *lacertinaria* (*Falcaria*), *glaucata* (*Cilix*), *flexula* (*Aventia*). From this work and the study of the material in the Roemer Museum, there seems to me to be two generic types passing usually indifferently under the names either of Schrank or of Laspeyres. One of these two should be available for *Drepana*. I quote the work for the characters:

A. Hind tibiæ with two pair of spurs. Antennæ * of the ♀ with saw-like teeth or notched.

The species are: *cultraria*, *binaria* (*hamula*), *harpagula*. To this section therefore the term *Platypteryx* irrevocably applies. Of the species I have not yet seen the last named.

B. Hind tibiæ only with terminal spurs. Antennæ of the ♀ shortly pectinate.

The species are: *falcataria*, *curvatula*. I have *falcataria* before me, and it is to this type that we may limit *Drepana*, if, in order to use this earliest name for some member of the group, we would not disturb any one of the three genera above indicated. I believe the characters to be of generic value. It is to this genus that our American species belongs, since it appears to "represent" the European *falcataria*; its correct title is therefore: *Drepana arcuata* Wlk. *Platypteryx* is then not yet found in America.

A NEW DATANA.

By HARRISON G. DYAR.

Datana chiriquensis, sp. nov.—Allied to *integerrima* G. & R., but larger and without the pale shades bordering the transverse lines.

Light brown, the fore wings thickly and evenly irrorate with dark brown scales; lines and fringe concolorous, dark brown. Transverse anterior line regularly arcuate, distinct; transverse median line also distinct, crossing the cell between the discal spots; transverse posterior line distinct, nearly straight, slightly incurved at vein 1 and at costal edge; between median and t. p. lines three faint lines (forming one more line than in the United States species), quite regularly spaced; apical streak dislocated, obscure. Discal spots pulverulent, dark, the outer narrow, moderate, the inner obsolescent, much as in *integerrima*. Costal portion of the wing scarcely brighter than the rest. Exterior margin entire. Secondaries brown outwardly, pale toward base. Thorax normal. Expanse 60 mm.

Types two ♀ ♀, Chiriqui, Mexico. (Heyde).

* Note Speyer's use of characters drawn from the female antennæ for taxonomic purposes and the implication of their value. The character given by Speyer, drawn from the hind tibiæ, is one used in the *Geometridæ*, and its use here indicates that there is a true relationship between the families as expressed by Dyar's classification.